Library

COSFORD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

WEST SUFFOLK

REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

together with the Report of the

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the Year

1962

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

DR. E. KINNEAR, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Officers of the Authority during 1962:

(a) Medical - One part-time Medical Officer of Health
DR. E. KINNEAR, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
(Appointed August 1962).

This Officer does not engage in private practice but holds in addition the following appointments:-

Medical Officer of Health - Borough of Sudbury
Hadleigh U.D.C.
Melford R.D.C.
Thedwastre R.D.C.

Assistant County Medical Officer)
School Medical Officer) West Suffolk County Council.

(b) Others - One Public Health Inspector,
G. H. HINE, Meat & Other Foods.
Certificate R.S.I.
Appointed 1st May, 1947.

Mr. Hine is also Surveyor to the Council.

One Additional Public Health Inspector
D. P. CARPENTER, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Appointed 1st August, 1961.

Public Health Committee

F. G. W. Letts, Esq. - Chairman
E. J. Hart, Esq. - Vice-Chairman

Miss E. I. Derbyshire
Col. K. A. Crockatt
Mr. T. C. Dawson
Mr. B. F. English
Mr. T. I. Horrex
Mr. H. P. Knott
Mr. J. E. W. Ladbrook
Mr. W. R. Turner
Mr. J.R.G. Venmore Rowland
Mr. F. L. Wheeler
Mr. F. E. Woodgate

MRS. C. N. McGEORGE, J.P. - CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL
LT.COL. G.F.St.C. STOCKWELL - VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL
MR. C. A. DURRANT - CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
of the

Medical Officer of Health for the Rural District of Cosford in the County of West Suffolk for the year ending 31st December, 1962.

Sudbury 2855

To the Chairman and Members of the
Rural District Council of Cosford

December 1963.

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Public Health Services for the year 1962.

The report indicates that the district is healthy, and apparently, there are no serious problems of public health.

The incidence of infectious diseases has been low, although three cases of tuberculosis were notified from one village. Two of these cases were, as ofton, nowadays, in elderly persons. The cases of scarlet fever were mild and only gave concern because a few children were returning to school a little too early, to be fully fit.

Too many people are living in cottages which are lacking in amenities. I hope that the Council's plans for the sewering of the district will lead to general improvements in this direction.

The Council has made praiseworthy efforts in the housing of elderly persons and has demonstrated, also, a proper concern for the housing and welfare of families which for health, or other reasons have become in need of help.

I feel that the Council would wish me to state, here, that a large number of elderly people are independent and not in need of care. They do, in fact, make an important contribution to family and community life, by their care of young people, and by the love, affection, interest and security which they give to the younger generations.

Therefore, although it may be true that improved care for elderly, infirm persons, and for handicapped people depends upon the work and energy of younger and middle-aged adults, it is fairer to say that the elder generation and the younger generations are inter-dependent..

For this reason, I am glad that the Council is concerned, not only for the housing and care of elderly persons, but also for the housing of young parents with children, who are the growing points of the population. In this way, the Council contributes to the emotional as well as to the economical well-being of the community.

May I express my thanks to the Chairman and members of the Council for their understanding? I am grateful to Mr. Letts, the Chairman, and the members of the Public Health Committee; Mr. Durrant, the Clerk of the Council; Mr. Hine, the Senior Public Health Inspector & Surveyor; Mr. Carpenter, the Additional Public Health Inspector and all other officials and staff of the Council for their constant help and co-operation.

Your obedient Servant,

E. KINNEAR

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

1. GENERAL STATISTICS — Area ... ... 48,530 acres.

	1962	(1961)	(1960)
Registrar General's estimate of the resident population	9,060	9,050	9,360
Number of inhabitated houses at end of year according to Rate Book	3,390	(3,350)	(3,300)
Rateable Value	£77,037	(£75,527)	(£73,361)
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£304 8. 3..	(£292 17.5.)	(£280 17.5.)

2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR (Figures in parentheses refer to previous year).

LIVE BIRTHS	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	124 (110)	75 (51)	49 (59)
Illegitimate	2 (6)	1 (3)	1 (3)
Total:	126 (116)	76 (54)	50 (62)

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population (crude)	13.9	(12.8)
" " " " " " (adjusted)	15.8	(14.6)
(Comparability factor 1.14)		
" " " " 1,000 population (England and Wales)	18.0	(17.4)

STILLBIRTHS	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	1 (2)	1 (1)	- (1)
Illegitimate	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
Total:	1 (2)	1 (1)	- (1)

Stillbirth rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	7.9	(16.9)
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths (England & Wales)	18.1	(19.1)

TOTAL LIVE and STILLBIRTHS	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	125 (112)	76 (52)	49 (60)
Illegitimate	2 (6)	1 (3)	1 (3)
	127 (118)	77 (55)	50 (63)

INFANT MORTALITY. Death of Infants under One Year of Age			
Legitimate	1 (1)	1 (-)	- (-)
Illegitimate	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
	1 (-)	1 (-)	- (-)

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	7.9	(nil)
" " " " " " " (England & Wales) ...	21.4	(21.6)
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate " "	7.9	(nil)
Pen-natal " " " "	7.9	(nil)
Illegitimate Birth Rate	1.6	(5.1%)
Maternal deaths (including abortions)		Nil
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths ...		Nil

Deaths	Total	Male	Female
	112 (116)	70 (56)	42 (60)

Death rate per 1,000 population (crude)	12.4	(12.8)
" " " " " (adjusted)	10.0	(10.4)
(Comparability Factor 0.81)		
" " " " " (England and Wales)	11.9	(12.0.)

The table following gives the causes and the number of deaths occurring during 1962. The grand totals correspond with the Registrar General's figures.

	TOTAL		MALES		FEMALES	
ALL CAUSES:	112	(116)	70	(56)	42	(60)
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	(1)	-	(-)	2	(1)
2. Tuberculosis, Other	-	(-)	-	(-)	-	(-)
3. Syphilitic Disease	-	(-)	-	(-)	-	(-)
4. Diphtheria	-	(-)	-	(-)	-	(-)
5. Whooping Cough	-	(-)	-	(-)	-	(-)
6. Meningococcal Infections	-	(-)	-	(-)	-	(-)
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	(-)	-	(-)	-	(-)
8. Measles	-	(-)	-	(-)	-	(-)
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	-	(-)	-	(-)	-	(-)
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	3	(2)	2	(2)	1	(-)
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	7	(4)	5	(3)	2	(1)
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	1	(2)	-	(-)	1	(2)
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	1	(-)	-	(-)	1	(-)
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	11	(13)	8	(5)	3	(8)
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	(1)	-	(1)	-	(-)
16. Diabetes	-	(-)	-	(-)	-	(-)
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	23	(24)	16	(7)	7	(17)
18. Coronary disease, angina	16	(21)	9	(12)	7	(9)
19. Hypertension with heart disease	2	(5)	2	(2)	-	(3)
20. Other Heart Disease	15	(16)	8	(10)	7	(6)
21. Other Circulatory disease	6	(5)	2	(2)	4	(3)
22. Influenza	1	(2)	1	(1)	-	(1)
23. Pneumonia	3	(7)	2	(4)	1	(3)
24. Bronchitis	5	(8)	3	(7)	2	(1)
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	-	(-)	-	(-)	-	(-)
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodunum	1	(-)	1	(-)	-	(-)
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	3	(1)	2	(-)	1	(1)
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	(1)	-	(-)	-	(1)
29. Nyperplasia of Prostate	2	(-)	2	(-)	-	(-)
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	(-)	-	(-)	-	(-)
31. Congenital malformations	1	(-)	1	(-)	-	(-)
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	(2)	5	(-)	1	(2)
33. Motor vehicle accidents	-	(-)	-	(-)	-	(-)
34. All other accidents	3	(1)	1	(-)	2	(1)
35. Suicide	-	(-)	-	(-)	-	(-)
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	(-)	-	(-)	-	(-)

...

Infectious diseases:

Total	Males	Females	
2	-	2	1.8%

Neoplasms, all types:

Total	Males	Females	
23	15	8	20.5%

Vascular diseases including strokes:

Total	Males	Females	
62	37	25	55.3%

Respiratory diseases excluding lung cancer:

Total	Males	Females	
9	6	3	8.0%

Accidents and Violence:

Total	Males	Females	
3	1	2	2.6%

COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
Birth rate (adjusted)	15.7	12.8	16.5	15.3	14.6	15.8
Death rate (")	9.7	10.5	9.8	9.4	10.4	10.0
Infant Mortality Rate	30.8	9.4	7.3	15.0	Nil	7.9
Number of infant deaths	4	1	1	2	Nil	1

The vital statistics indicate -

(1) A slight rise in the population for the first time since 1958.

(2) A small rise in the birth rate, although this remains below the national average, and below that of certain other rural districts in West Suffolk.

(3) There was only one death of an infant below the age of one year, and no maternal deaths.

(4) The illegitimacy rate was very low.

(5) The death rate is still substantially below the national average.

(6) There were 7 deaths from lung cancer, representing 6.25% of the total deaths.

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SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

(a) LABORATORY FACILITIES. The Public Health Laboratory Service, Woodbridge Road East, Ipswich under the directorship of Dr. J. M. S. Dixon, provides help and advice, always willingly given, on matters concerning bacterology and epidemiology, and the supply of vaccines and sera in special cases.

Dr. S. Greenburgh, Public Analyst, Tenison Road, Cambridge gives a similar efficient, helpful service when chemical analyses are required.

(b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES. These services since July 1953 have been provided directly by the County Council under the direction of the County Medical Officer of Health.

(c) NURSING IN THE HOME. The West Suffolk County Council District Nurse-Midwives carry out these duties.

(d) CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES. The West Suffolk County Council held Infant Welfare Clinics at the following centres in Cosford:-

Bildeston - Chapel School Room ... 1st Wednesday in each month.
Lavenham - Guildhall ... ... 2nd Tuesday in each month.

(e) NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 - SECTION 47. Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and protection.

No proceedings were taken under this Section during the year.

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SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. (i) WATER. The district is supplied with water by a comprehensive scheme serving all parishes. Almost all the supply is obtained from the main headworks at Semer.

The headworks comprise twin boreholes lined with steel guide tubes to a depth of 145 feet and 24" diameter slotted steel lining tubes to a depth of 400 feet with pumping plant in duplicate. Chalk commences at 96 feet below the surface and from this depth the boreholes are in chalk down to the final depth of 400 feet. The main source of water is obtained at about 345 feet where a narrow belt of flints is embedded in the chalk.

The yield of water as ascertained by continuous pumping during 10 days was some 867,000 gallons per day.

The mains are linked with those of the Thingoe and Gipping Rural Districts and in times of emergency a supply can be afforded to the whole of this district from the Thingoe R.D.C.

The following table gives the position with regard to the properties connected to the mains as at 31st December, 1962. There has been a further gradual improvement during the year.

Parish	Total Houses	Houses Connected	Stand-pipe	On Route but not Connected	Not on Route of Mains
Aldham	49	46	-	-	3
Bildeston	272	262	5	4	1
Boxford	279	264	5	-	10
Brent Eleigh	55	42	-	2	11
Brettenham	97	96	-	-	1
Chelsworth	55	41	-	11	3
Cockfield	249	226	-	13	10
Edwardstone	121	108	2	-	11
Elmsett	125	98	2	15	10
Groton	75	63	-	3	9
Hitcham	220	174	24	3	19
Kersey	150	136	3	5	6
Kettlebaston	26	21	-	-	5
Lavenham	614	563	41	1	9
Layham	137	98	-	18	21
Lindsey	62	49	7	2	4
Milden	48	47	-	-	1
Monks Eleigh	163	138	5	7	13
Nedging-with-Naughton	108	92	13	-	3
Polstead	214	183	2	8	21
Preston St. Mary	75	62	-	-	13
Semer	59	40	-	10	9
Thorpe Morieux	91	90	-	1	-
Wattisham	44	44	-	-	-
Whatfield	85	76	6	-	3
Total:	3,473	3,059 88%	115 3¼%	103 3%	196 5¾%

There were 393 metered supplies at 31st December, 1962.

The following table shows the water produced at the Semer works and also the quantities supplied to Gipping R.D.C., Hadleigh U.D.C. and the Air Ministry for each month of the year:-

Month	Water Pumped from Semer Bore in 000 galls.	Water Supplied to Gipping R.D.C. in 000 galls.	Water Supplied to Air Ministry in 000 galls.	Water Supplied to Hadleigh U.D.C. in 000 galls.
January	14,500	1,000	3,851	2,703
February	12,647	911	3,270	1,407
March	13,980	987	4,750	1,070
April	14,485	799	4,122	1,152
May	13,225	823	3,035	1,034
June	16,080	1,213	3,352	1,733
July	15,098	1,003	3,010	1,346
August	14,127	907	3,581	1,195
September	12,679	906	3,580	1,273
October	12,642	797	2,850	1,144
November	13,652	797	3,760) Est.	1,226
December	14,746	874	3,760)	1,243
Total:	167,861	11,017	42,921	16,526

The average daily pumping figure at Semer is 460,000 gallons. An average of 19,000 gallons per day was taken from Thingoe R.D.C.

43 samples were submitted for bacteriological analysis during the year; 38 were from the mains and 5 from private sources. All the samples from the mains and two from private sources were considered to be satisfactory; 3 of the samples from private sources were unsatisfactory in some respects.

89 new connections were made to the mains during the year.

The following extensions to the mains were carried out:-

Boxford/Polstead	- White Street Green	3" pipe.
Lavenham	- Bears Lane	
Groton	- Parliament Heath	small diameter pipe.
Lavenham	- Brent Eleigh Road	
Monks Eleigh	- The Tye	
Cockfield	- Great Green	housing site extensions.
Elmsett	- Hadleigh Road	

Plumbo-solvency. The water supplied through the Council's mains is not liable to have any plumbo-solvent action.

Action taken in respect of Contamination. All water produced at the Semer headworks is chlorinated.

(ii) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE. The three largest parishes in the district, i.e. Lavenham, Bildeston and Boxford (including Sherbourne Street, Edwardstone) have sewerage facilities serving all but the most outlying parts of the parishes.

These works are maintained by a staff of two and samples of effluent are taken regularly by the Essex River Board.

The scheme for the village of Kersey is virtually completed and should be in operation within the next few weeks.

A tender has been accepted for the Monks Eleigh sewerage scheme and work is expected to commence early in 1963.

A scheme for the village of Layham is in an advanced stage of preparation and should go to tender during early 1963.

Schemes for the White Street Green area of Boxford and Mill Green, Edwardstone are under consideration for their inclusion into the existing Boxford works which will require some enlargement.

In addition to the above public sewers, there are a number of small sewage disposal works throughout the district serving Council housing estates. Those works which do not give a satisfactory effluent are being enlarged and improved in conjunction with the Council's improvement schemes for Council houses. In certain cases a few neighbouring privately owned houses have been permitted to connect to these systems.

These various small works are maintained by a staff of two.

Every effort is made to keep all works in a satisfactory condition.

2. PUBLIC CLEANSING:

(i) Refuse Collection. The "kerbside" system of house refuse collection is in force throughout the district. Weekly collections take place in Lavenham, Boxford and Bildeston, with fortnightly collections in the remaining 22 parishes. The amount of refuse put out for collection continues to increase steadily and the schedule can only be maintained by the working of regular overtime.

Only one vehicle is in use although this is of the large fore and aft tipping variety. Considerable difficulties do, however, occur at times of public holidays or if the vehicle has to be withdrawn from service for repair.

Tipping has been carried out in a disposal site within the Hadleigh Urban District which has been shared with the Urban District Council. Comparatively few difficulties arise at this disposal point, but it is relatively remote from a considerable part of th area and mileage has therefore increased.

Regular treatment for the control of flies and rats was carried out.

(ii) Nightsoil Collection and Cesspool Emptying Service. Until 1st October, 1962, nightsoil was collected in five parishes and in the more built up part of three others by the Council's own workmen; the average number of pails dealt with each week was 370.

From 1st October, 1962, a once weekly nightsoil collection by private contract was instituted throughout the whole of the district; the average number of pails collected being 695.

A service for the emptying of private cesspools and septic tanks, when requested, is operated. The Council's policy is to give one free emptying of his cesspool to each householder every year.

A total of 523 private cesspools were emptied during the year.

Notices served under the Public Health Act, 1936

Informal Notices	outstanding 1st January, 1962	6
" "	served during 1962	26
" "	complied with during 1962	29
" "	outstanding 31st December, 1962	3
Statutory Notices	outstanding 1st January, 1962	2
" "	served during 1962	4
" "	complied with during 1962	6
" "	outstanding 31st December, 1962	-

Factory Act, 1947 - Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health:

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority.	6	7	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	33	21	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority *(excluding outworkers).	54	217	Nil	Nil
	93	245	Nil	Nil

*i.e. Electrical Stations (Sections 103 (1), Institutions (Section 104 and sites of Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction (Sections 107 and 108).

(iv) SHOPS AND OFFICES. Normal inspections of premises has been carried out under the Shops Act and it was not found necessary to take action against the occupiers of any of these premises.

v) CAMPING SITES. At the 31st December, 1962, 30 licences under the Caravan Sites & Control of Development Act, 1961 were in force for the use of caravan sites. Of these, 23 were for single caravans, 3 for 2 caravans, 1 for 3 caravans and 1 for 6 caravans, 1 for 20 caravans, 1 for 24 caravans.

Court Proceedings are being instituted in respect of the site for 20 caravans for non-compliance with the conditions of licence.

The Council have adopted standards for caravan sites in the district based on the Model Standards issued by the Ministry of Housing & Local Government and licences are issued subject to compliance with these standards.

(vi) SMOKE ABATEMENT. There are no heavy industries within the Rural District, which is therefore free from industrial atmospheric pollution.

There were no cases of smoke nuisance during the year.

(vii) SWIMMING BATHS. There are no public swimming baths within the Rural District.

(viii) RODENT CONTROL. The Council employ a part-time Rodent Operative, working under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector and Surveyor.

The Operator carries out treatment works to private dwellings, business and agricultural premises, local authority tips, sewers and other Council owned properties.

The treatment service to private dwellings is carried out free of charge, whilst for business premises and agricultural properties, the charge is based on an hourly rate.

In addition to his work in the Cosford District, the Rodent Operative also gives treatment within the Hadleigh Urban District on receipt of instruction from that Council who are recharged with the cost of the work.

The work of the Rodent Operative is indicated in the following table:-

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949
Report for Year ended 31st December, 1962

		(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling houses (inc. Council houses)	(3) All Other Premises	(4) Total of Cols. 1,2 & 3	(5) Agricultural
1. No. of properties in Local Authority's District		25	3387	308	3720	299
2. No. of properties inspected as a result of notification		-	207	15	222	53
Number of such properties found to be infested by:-						
Common rat	Major	-	9	3	12	33
	Minor	-	193	11	204	20
Ship rat	Major	-	-	-	-	-
	Minor	-	-	-	-	-
House mouse	Major	-	-	-	-	-
	Minor	-	5	1	6	-

3. No. of properties inspected in the course of Survey under the Act	25	219	4	248	17
Number of such properties found to be infested by:-					
Common rat Major	8	-	-	8	-
Common rat Minor	8	-	-	8	-
Ship rat Major	-	-	-	-	-
Ship rat Minor	-	-	-	-	-
House mouse Major	-	-	-	-	-
House mouse Minor	-	-	-	-	-
4. No of properties otherwise inspected (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)		Accurate figures not available.			
Number of such properties found to be infested by:-					
Common rat Major	-	-	-	-	-
Common rat Minor	-	-	-	-	-
Ship rat Major	-	-	-	-	-
Ship rat Minor	-	-	-	-	-
House mouse Major	-	-	-	-	-
House mouse Minor	-	-	-	-	-
5. Total inspections carried out including re-inspections (To be completed only if figures are readily available)	-	-	-	-	-
6. No. of infested properties (in Sections II, III & IV) treated by the L.A.	16	207	15	238	53
No. of "Block" control schemes carried out	5				

(ix) SCHOOLS. There are ten village schools in the district and all are supplied with water from the Council's mains.

The schools at Bildeston, Boxford and Lavenham have W.C.s. connected to the public sewers; the school at Monks Eleigh is drained to the sewage works serving the housing site; the school at Cockfield has W.Cs. and a cesspool; the remainder at Elmsett, Hitcham, Kersey, Polstead and Whatfield have Elsan closets.

(x) PUBLIC HOUSES. All public houses in the district have a water supply from the Council's mains and all are maintained in a good state of cleanliness; only a small proportion of the houses cater for meals.

The various brewery companies are still continuing to co-operate in improving the standards of their premises with regard to conveniences and to comply with the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

SECTION D

HOUSING

1. (i) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 167

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 203

(ii) (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (i) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 — 15

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose — 25

(iii) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation — 15

(iv) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation — 83

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notices:-

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers — 52

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, 12 and 39 of the Housing Act, 1957:-

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs — Nil

(2) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-

(a) By owners — Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners — Nil

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied — 2

(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices

(a) By owners — 2
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners — Nil

(c) Proceedings under Sections 16. 17, 19, 21 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1957:-

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made — Nil

(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders — 13

(3) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders were made or Undertakings accepted not to relet for human habitation — 5

(4) Number of dwellinghouses closed in pursuance of Closing Orders or Undertakings — 5

(d) Proceedings under Sections 18,19, and 27 of the Housing Act, 1957:-

(1) Number of parts of dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders were made — Nil

(2) Number of parts of dwellinghouses closed in pursuance of Closing Orders — Nil

(e) Proceedings under Sections 42 and 43 of the Housing Act, 1957:-

(1) Number of houses demolished in Clearance Areas — Nil

(f) Housing subject to Demolition Orders, Closing Orders and Undertakings Not to Relet subsequently made fit to the satisfaction of the Council:-

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were revoked 3

(2) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were suspended to allow work of improvement to proceed Nil

(3) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Undertakings were cancelled after being made fit for habitation 16

(4) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders were removed after being made fit for habitation 4

GENERAL STATISTICS

4. HOUSING. The Council's 1962 contribution of the housing needs of the district in addition to the general repair and maintenace of existing houses, is indicated by the following summary.

During 1962 there were 6 Council houses built in the district, comprising 2, 3 bedroom and 4, 2 bedroom type. 23 private dwellinghouses were also constructed. This is indicated in the following table which shows the post-war building:-

	Total Houses in the Parish	Total Council owned dwellings at 31.12.62	Post-war Council Houses Total	Built in 1962	Built in 1946-61	Housing Acquired by Council and Improved	Total Pre-war & Emergency War Houses	% of houses in Parish which are Council houses
Aldham	49	6	-	-	-	-	6	12%
Bildeston	272	107	84	-	84	-	23	39%
Boxford	279	63	44	-	44	-	19	23%
Brent Eleigh	55	12	2	-	2	-	10	22%
Brettenham	97	8	6	-	6	-	2	8%
Chelsworth	55	2	-	-	-	-	2	4%
Cockfield	249	54	34	-	34	-	20	22%
Edwardstone	121	24	12	-	12	-	12	20%
Elmsett	125	28	18	-	18	-	10	23%
Groton	75	12	-	-	-	-	12	16%
Hitcham	220	28	18	-	18	-	10	13%
Kersey	150	17	14	-	14	-	3	11%
Kettlebaston	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lavenham	614	153	119	-	119	4	30	25%
Layham	137	16	16	-	16	-	-	12%
Lindsey	62	6	2	-	2	-	4	10%
Milden	48	6	4	-	4	-	2	12%
Monks Eleigh	163	22	16	-	16	-	6	13%
Nedging/Naughton	108	24	10	6	4	-	14	22%
Polstead	214	38	28	-	28	-	10	18%
Preston St. Mary	75	6	4	-	4	-	2	8%
Semer	59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Thorpe Morieux	91	14	8	-	8	-	6	15%
Wattisham	44	2	-	-	-	-	2	5%
Whatfield	85	39	20	-	20	-	19	46%
Total:	3,473	687	459	6	453	4	224	20%

Private houses built post-war	Total	1962	1946-1961
	204	23	181

Private houses in course of construction at 31.12.62 - 25
Council houses in course of construction at 31.12.62 - 25

Modernisation of the following houses was carried out during the year:-

1 - 4, Howe Road, Cockfield.
1 - 4, Church Road, Lindsey.
1 - 4, Rectory Road, Whatfield.

5. IMPROVEMENT GRANTS:

(a) Discretionary. During 1962 schemes in respect of 24 dwellings were approved, the grants allocated totalling £8,703. These figures compare with 18 dwellings with a grant of £5,920 approved in 1961.

The total amount of grant approved since the inception of the scheme amounts to £69,016.

(b) Standard. During the past year 56 grants were approved with a total allocation of £7,800. This compares with 64 grants with a total of £7,420 approved in 1961.

The total amount of grants approved since the commencement of this scheme amounts to £26,515.

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SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) Milk Supply.

Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959:
No. of Distributors on Register

All milk sold in the district is either Sterilised, Pasteurised or Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised).

(b) Ice-Cream.

There are no premises licensed for the manufacture of Ice-cream in the Rural District.

There are 33 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream, which is all of the pre-packed variety.

Mobile vans also operate in the district, but are based outside it. These are inspected from time to time and were found to be satisfactory.

The introduction of "soft" ice-cream which, at the moment, is sold only from mobile vans in this district will require greater vigilance in ensuring that a safe product reaches the consumer.

(c) Meat and Other Foods.

Only one butcher slaughters his own meat the remainder obtaining their supplies from meat wholesalers. The one butcher with a licensed slaughterhouse carefully selects animals from local farms and the meat is of a very good quality.

During the year inspections of premises to which the Food Hygiene Regulations applied (including licensed premises) were carried out. The standard of fixtures and fittings in food shops continue to improve.

Every food shop has mains water connected and nearly all have satisfactory sanitary accommodation and drainage systems. Almost all the owners willingly co-operate in observing clean practice in the handling of food supplies.

Food Premises in the District:

Hotels and licensed premises	39
Restaurants and cafes	2
Grocers and general stores	30
Ice-cream premises	33
Confectioners	9
Butchers	8
Fishmongers	2
Dairies	2
Greengrocers	5
Bakers	3
Fried fishshops	1

Slaughterhouses

The slaughterhouse occupied by T. R. Emerson Ltd., Bildeston ceased to operate on 1st April, 1962 as a result of failure to comply with the construction regulations. A proposal to erect a new slaughterhouse has been approved by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food and a license promised, but no move has yet been made to commence building works.

The slaughterhouse occupied by C. Knewell, Boxford has been reconstructed to comply with the regulations and is licensed. Regular slaughtering, however, is not carried out and little use has been made of it during 1962.

All animals slaughtered at this slaughterhouse are inspected.

Premises registered under the Food & Drug Act, 1955 - Section 16:

Sausage manufacturers	8
Ice-cream premises	33

The registered sausage manufacturers are all butchers who make sausages as part of their general business. The inspections of these premises are included in the inspection of butchers shops.

Food Stalls.

There are no stalls from which food is sold in the Rural District.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

Regular routine visits to food premises have been carried out during the year and various minor contraventions of the Regulations have been discussed and explained to the proprietors. These contraventions have been rectified without recourse to statutory action.

Educational Activity Regarding Food Hygiene.

No clean food guilds have been inaugurated in the district. Copies of posters issued by the Ministry of Health drawing attention to the prevention of food poisoning by means of good hygiene practices, were issued to hotels and shops.

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SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF & CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The table following shows the number of Infectious Diseases notified to the Medical Officer of Health during the year:-

	Total	Males	Females
Scarlet Fever	15	10	5
Whooping Cough	3	-	3
Acute Poliomyelitis	0	-	-
Measles (excl. Rubella)	4	2	2
Dysentery	0	-	-
Acute pneumonia	5	2	3
Erysipelas	3	1	2
	30	15	15

Several cases of scarlet fever occurred in January and February, and also in October, November and December.

Cases were notified from -

Bildeston	(5)
Brettenham	(2)
Hitcham	(5)
Nedging	(1)
Wattisham	(2)

With the co-operation of the Principal School Medical Officer, West Suffolk, visits were made to two schools affected.

One case of infectious hepatitis was investigated.

T U B E R C U L O S I S

New Cases and Mortality

NEW CASES:

	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954
Pulmonary	3	4	1	3	2	1	4	4	5
Non-Pulmonary	-	-	-	1	2	2	1	-	3

MORTALITY: During 1962 there were two female deaths from respiratory tuberculosis.

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